



Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for Form PTO/B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

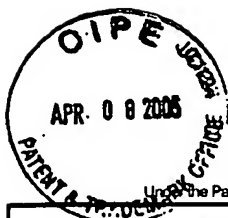
Sheet	1	of	2	Complete If Known
				Application Number
				10/715,969
				Filing Date
				November 18, 2003
				First Named Inventor
				James D. Ralph
				Art Unit
				3738
				Examiner Name
				J. G. Bianco
				Attorney Docket Number
				SPINE 3.0-446 CONT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
[Signature]	AC	US-2002/0111681-A1	05-25-2004	Ralph et al.	
	AD	US-2002/0111682-A1	08-15-2002	Ralph et al.	
	AE	US-2002/0111683-A1	12-30-2003	Ralph et al.	
	AF	US-2002/0111684-A1	08-15-2002	Ralph et al.	
	AG	US-2002/0111685-A1	08-15-2002	Ralph et al.	
	AH	US-2002/0111686-A1	07-20-2004	Ralph et al.	
	AI	US-2002/0111687	08-15-2002	Ralph et al.	
	AO	US-2003/0014111-A1	03-04-2003	Ralph et al.	
	AP	US-2003/0014112-A1	04-20-2004	Ralph et al.	
	AQ	US-2003/0040801-A1	07-06-2004	Ralph et al.	
	AS	US-2003/0069586-A1	04-10-2003	Errico et al.	
	AT	US-2003/0069642-A1	04-10-2003	Ralph et al.	
	AU	US-2003/0074067-A1	04-17-2003	Errico et al.	
	AV	US-2003/0078662-A1	01-06-2004	Ralph et al.	
	AW	US-2003/0078663-A1	12-30-2003	Ralph et al.	
	AX	US-2003/0078664	04-24-2003	Ralph et al.	
	AY	US-2003/0078665-A1	11-11-2003	Ralph et al.	
	AZ	US-2003/0078666-A1	08-26-2003	Ralph et al.	
	AE1	US-2003/0191534-A1	01-27-2004	Viant et al.	
	AL1	US-2004/0002761-A1	01-01-2004	Rogers et al.	
	AM1	US-2004/0002762-A1	09-21-2004	Hawkins	
	AS1	US-4,309,777	01-12-1982	Patil	
	AV1	US-4,997,432	03-05-1991	Keller	
	AZ1	US-5,314,477	05-24-1994	Marnay	
	AB2	US-5,401,269	03-28-1995	Buttner-Janz et al.	
	AC2	US-5,425,773	06/1995	Boyd et al.	
	AD2	US-5,458,642	10/1995	Beer et al.	
	AE2	US-5,507,816	04-16-1996	Bullivant	
	AF2	US-5,556,431	09/1996	Buttner-Janz	
	AG2	US-5,562,738	10/1996	Boyd et al.	
	AI2	US-5,676,701	06-16-1998	Choy et al.	
	AK2	US-5,683,465	11/1997	Shinn et al.	
	AQ2	US-5,893,889	04/1999	Harrington	
	AR2	US-5,895,428	04/1999	Berry	
	AS2	US-5,899,941	05/1999	Nishijima et al.	
	AT2	US-5,928,284	07-27-1999	Mehdizadeh	
	AU2	US-5,989,291	11/1999	Ralph et al.	
	AY2	US-6,063,121	05/2000	Xavier et al.	
	AB3	US-6,146,421	11/2000	Gordon et al.	
	AG3	US-6,231,609	05-15-2001	Mehdizadeh	
	AI3	US-6,368,350	04/2002	Erickson et al.	
	AK3	US-6,416,551	07-09-2002	Keller	
	AM3	US-6,468,310	10/2002	Ralph et al.	
	AO3	US-6,517,580	02-11-2003	Ramadan et al.	
	AQ3	US-6,527,804	03-04-2003	Gauchet et al.	
	AR3	US-6,527,806-A1	03-04-2003	Ralph et al.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
[Signature]	April 18, 2005

555601_1.DOC



PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)
Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete If Known	
				Application Number	10/715,969
				Filing Date	November 18, 2003
				First Named Inventor	James D. Ralph
				Art Unit	3738
				Examiner Name	J. G. Blanco
				Attorney Docket Number	SPINE 3.0-446 CONT
Sheet	2	of	2		

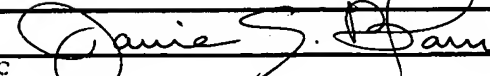
AA4	US-6,610,092	08-26-2003	Ralph et al.	
AC4	US-6,645,249-B2	11/2003	Ralph et al.	
AD4	US-6,669,730	12-30-2003	Ralph et al.	
AE4	US-6,669,731	12-30-2003	Ralph et al.	
AG4	US-6,673,113-A1	01-06-2004	Ralph et al.	
AH4	US-6,682,562	01-27-2004	Viart et al.	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.18 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	April 18, 2005
--------------------	---	-----------------	----------------

553601_1.DOC